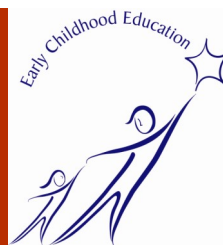




# GOLD Nuggets

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## Welcome to GOLD Nuggets!

**GOLD Nuggets** is a new publication from the ADE Early Childhood Education unit intended to share “nuggets” of information specific to the statewide implementation of the new assessment instrument, Teaching Strategies GOLD. Arizona-specific policies, helpful hints and other important announcements related to GOLD will be shared through this document. The ECE unit will continue to send other updates and memos focused on broader issues impacting the early childhood field.

If you have any **questions related to implementing GOLD**, please contact Holly Ford at 602-542-2790 or [holly.ford@azed.gov](mailto:holly.ford@azed.gov).

Programs should begin purchasing **per-child subscriptions** to GOLD online by contacting Teaching Strategies at 1-301-634-0818 ext. 1111 or email Johanna Hooks at [johannah@teachingstrategies.com](mailto:johannah@teachingstrategies.com). Consider purchasing only the number of subscriptions you will need for the first quarter. Additional subscriptions can be purchased throughout the year at a pro-rated cost. Arizona programs can purchase subscriptions for \$10.95 per child.

**GOLD Teacher and Administrator trainings** will be held in September. Please check the ADE Calendar of Events at [www.azed.gov/online/registration](http://www.azed.gov/online/registration) to register. A new version of the **Early Childhood Assessment System manual** will be available August 10th. This manual will provide guidance on Arizona-specific requirements regarding the use of GOLD. Below is an excerpt to assist program staff as they begin to set up their GOLD online subscriptions and enter child information.

## Entering Child Information in GOLD

The following items appear on the “Manage Children” tab in GOLD online. Only the fields on this tab that require Arizona-specific guidance are discussed below.

**SAIS ID#:** Please enter each child’s SAIS ID number in this field. If the child does not yet have a SAIS ID number, you can continue completing this page and return at a later date to add the number when it has been issued. **You must have a SAIS ID number entered**

**for every child before finalizing checkpoint data in October.**

**CTDS#:** *County/Type/District/School.* Every program in Arizona using GOLD under the Arizona Department of Education license is required to have a CTDS number. This includes programs that are not considered school districts. Programs can apply for this number through this online application: [https://www.azed.gov/schoolfinance/FAQs/CTDS\\_District/EntityProfileForm.pdf](https://www.azed.gov/schoolfinance/FAQs/CTDS_District/EntityProfileForm.pdf)

**CTDS# - Program of Attendance** – the number entered in this field should be the number that has been assigned to the program where the child attends or receives services on a regular basis. This could be a district, a Head Start program, a private child care or a variety of other program types. This field is required.

**CTDS# - Responsible District** - a number is required to be entered in this field **ONLY** if a child is the responsibility of a district but is placed or receives services in a program outside of this district. This circumstance most commonly applies to children with special needs.

## **Age or Class/Grade:**

The Age or Class/Grade field requires that you select an age range for each child. This selection determines the widely held expectations of development and learning that will be applied to each child as you conduct the assessment. **For children age 3 and older**, the child is assigned to a Class type that is designated as **Preschool, Pre-K, K**. Each child is then assigned a Class/Grade by the teacher. The teacher can choose to assign the child to:

(continued on next page)

# Entering Child Information in GOLD

- 3 to 4 year olds (preschool 3 class/grade) (Green),
- 4 to 5 year olds (pre-k 4 class/grade) (Blue),
- or Kindergarten (Purple).

The Class/Grade for the children in the Preschool, Pre-K, K classes is **not based on the child's birth date, but on the class/grade assigned by the teacher for the entire school year**. That's because children typically remain in the same group with the same teacher for the year. **In most programs, all children in a Class will have the same Age or Class/Grade, but the ability to assign the Age or Class/Grade for each child allows programs to have classes with mixed ages.**

When you evaluate each child's skills in order to select the level that best describes these skills related to the objectives and dimensions, you select a level based on your documentation of what a child knows and can do—his skills, knowledge, and behaviors—regardless of the Age or Class/Grade to which the child has been assigned. In that way you are able to see whether a child's skills are below, meeting, or exceeding expectations.

**First Day in Program:** This date should reflect the child's first day of *attendance* in the program/classroom, even if it was a year or more prior to the current school year.

**Program Participation:** Though a child may be supported through various funding sources, please select the source that represents the program in which the child is participating.

**IEP:** This box should only be selected if a child has a current Individualized Education Plan on file in a school district in Arizona. By clicking this box, a field will pop up that requires an "Entry Date to Part B". This **date should reflect the first day that the child received or will receive special education services, not the date that the IEP was written**. For instance, if a child's IEP is created in May but the child does not receive any services until August, the August date is the "Entry Date". This date will help determine the amount of time a child receives special education services. This entry date should only be entered ONCE will remain the same throughout the duration of a child's GOLD portfolio.

**Free and Reduced Lunch:** Please check this box if your

program has this information available. First Things First Pre-K Scholarship programs are required to select this box for the children to whom it applies.

**Assess this child using the Spanish Language and Literacy Objectives:** For children whose home language is Spanish, a Spanish-language version of the language and literacy objectives is available for use to help teachers track language and literacy development in Spanish. These objectives are very similar to the English version of these language and literacy objectives, but adaptations were made to reflect patterns of development unique to Spanish language and literacy. The decision to use these objectives in preschool programs is left to the discretion of the local program. The adult using these objectives to assess a child must be able to fluently read and speak Spanish. The use of these objectives in kindergarten classrooms is not permitted.

**Complete Home Language Survey:** Completing this survey will help determine whether a child should be assessed using the two additional objectives 37-38 under the area of English Language Acquisition. This information assists teachers in planning ways to support children's language and literacy acquisition and in basing instruction on children's strengths and needs. **The Home Language Survey should not be completed by teachers without input from parents or other family members.** The data gathered with this "Home Language Survey" should not be used to label children or identify them for special services. It should be used to help the teacher determine how to assess children most accurately and support their development and learning. The "Home Language Survey" is a resource of the *Teaching Strategies GOLD™* assessment system, not a requirement. **Consider incorporating the completion of this survey with the Primary Home Language Other Than English Survey and/or with the screening process for children with special needs.**

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